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Appendix of Claims

Claims 1-23 (Cancelled).

24. (Previously Presented): A method of providing information based on a user's technical proficiency, the method comprising:

receiving data related to the user's technical proficiency;

selecting a message from a plurality of messages based upon the received data related to the user's technical proficiency, wherein the plurality of messages include a first message that corresponds to a first level of technical proficiency and a second message that corresponds to a second level of technical proficiency; and

providing the selected message.

25. (Original): The method of claim 24 wherein a first computer provides the message, and wherein the method further comprises transmitting the message to a second computer.

26. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24 wherein the selecting further comprises performing the message selection at a client.

27. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24, wherein the method further comprises inferring a level of user technical proficiency.

28. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24, wherein selecting the message further comprises selecting the message based on one or more preferred languages of the user.

29. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 28 further comprising inferring the one or more preferred languages of the user.

30. (Original): The method of claim 24, wherein the message comprises at least one of the following: text, graphics, video, animation, sound and instructions.

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31. (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 24, wherein the received data related to the user's technical proficiency is provided by the user.

32. (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 27, wherein inferring comprises inferring the level of the user's technical proficiency based on user activity.

33. (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 24 wherein the receiving of the data related to the user's technical proficiency comprises retrieving the data from a database.

34. (Original): The method of claim 25 further comprising receiving an HTTP (HyperText Transfer Protocol) indicator at the first computer in response to a user's HTTP request for a URL (Universal Resource Locator) provided by the second computer.

35. (Previously Presented):   An apparatus for providing a message based on a user's technical proficiency comprising:

a data receiver arranged and structured so as to receive data related to the user's technical proficiency;

a data store arranged and structured so as to store a plurality of messages wherein the plurality of messages include a first message that corresponds to a first level of technical proficiency and a second message that corresponds to a second level of technical proficiency; and

a first computer that selects a message from the plurality of messages and provides the selected message.

36. (Previously Presented):   The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the first computer includes software used to determine the user's technical proficiency by inferring a level of user technical proficiency.

37. (Previously Presented):   The apparatus of claim 36, wherein inferring comprises inferring the level of the user's technical proficiency based on user activity.

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38. (Previously Presented): An apparatus for providing a message based on a user's technical proficiency, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving an indicator;

means for receiving data relating to the user's technical proficiency;

means for selecting a message from a database storing a plurality of messages wherein the selecting is based on the received indicator and the received data relating to the user's technical proficiency, wherein the plurality of messages include a first message that corresponds to a first level of technical proficiency and a second message that corresponds to a second level of technical proficiency; and

means for providing the selected message to a computer.

39. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the computer is a client computer.

40. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the means for selecting the message further comprises means for selecting the message from a plurality of messages based on one or more preferred languages of the user.

41. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the data related to the user's technical proficiency is provided by the user.

42. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the apparatus further comprises means for inferring the user's technical proficiency.

43. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 38, wherein receiving the data related to the user's technical proficiency comprises retrieving the data from a database.

44. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 24 wherein selecting a message is performed at an intervening agent between a client computer and a server computer.

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45. (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 44 wherein the intervening agent is a proxy server.

46. (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 24 wherein the selected message comprises at least one of a network status indicator, a file status indicator, or an error message.

47. (Previously Presented):   The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the first computer is an intervening agent between a client computer and a server computer.

48. (Previously presented):   The apparatus of claim 47 wherein the intervening agent is a proxy server.

49. (Previously Presented):   The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the selected message comprises at least one of a network status indicator, a file status indicator, or an error message.

50. (Previously Presented):   The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the first computer includes software for selecting a message from a plurality of messages based on one or more preferred languages of the user.

51. (Previously Presented):   The apparatus of claim 50 wherein the first computer includes software for inferring the one or more preferred languages of the user.

52. (Previously presented):   The method of claim 24 wherein the selected message comprises a web page.

53. (Previously Presented):   The apparatus of claim 35 wherein the selected message comprises a web page.

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54. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the selected message comprises a web page.